

A.R.

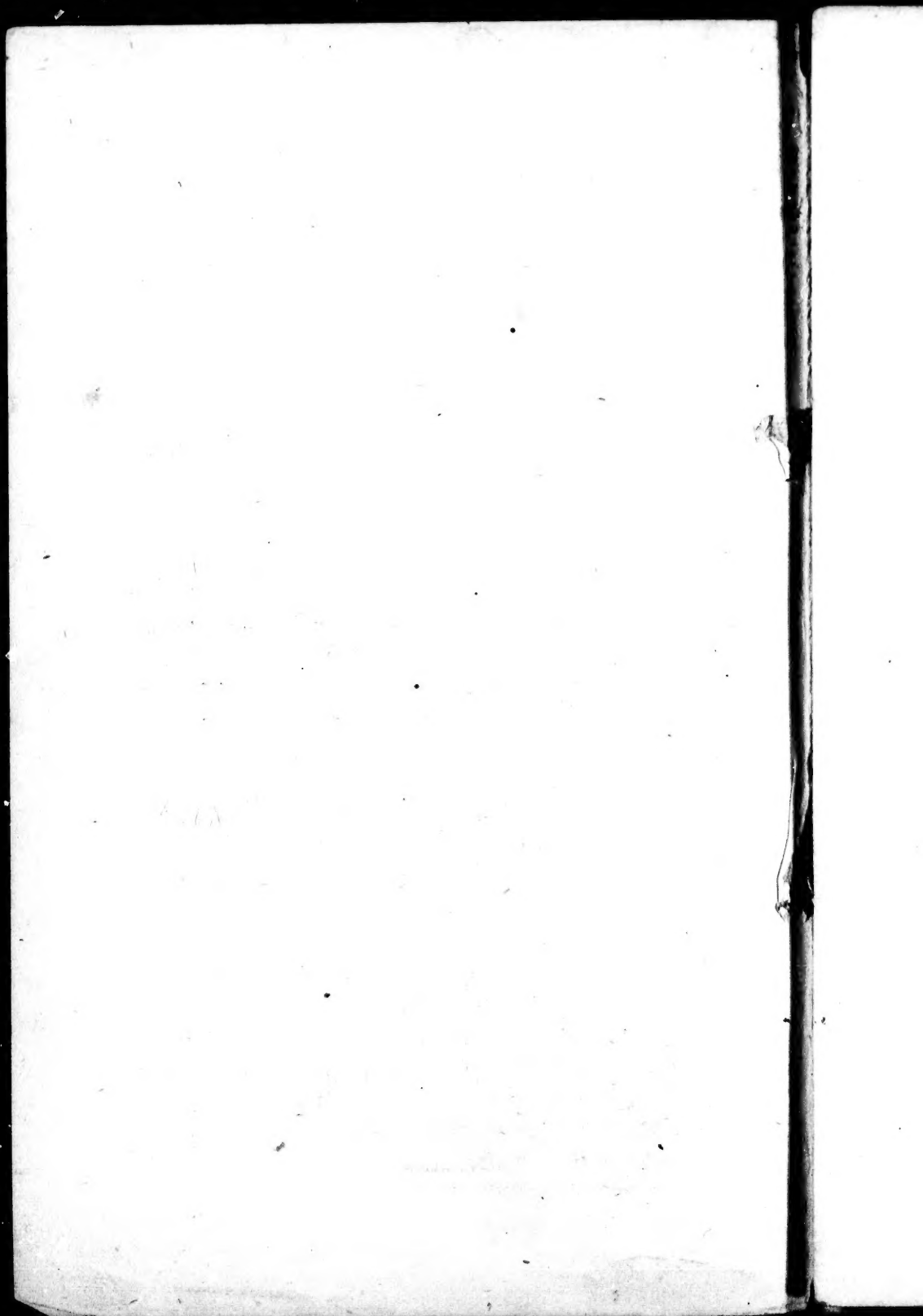
CXII

Trinity

A

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

372482
9.11.39



UNIVERSITY CONSOLIDATION.

ASSOCIATION

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF TRINITY COLLEGE.

On the 29th of December, 1874, the annual dinner of the Association was held in the College Hall. Among the numerous guests were gentlemen of eminence in letters and education ; and as the speeches were of more permanent interest than those usually delivered on such occasions, the Committee have thought it well to give them, as far as practicable, a permanent form.

The graceful tribute paid by the Provost to the memory of the founder and of the first Chancellor of our University, will be read with delight by those Trinity men who were denied the greater pleasure of hearing it spoken.

The principal topic of the other speakers was the question of a Provincial University. We give some of the speeches *in extenso*, and only regret that we are unable to do the same with those of Professor Wilson and Professor Cherriman, who handled the subject with great humour and dealt deserved sarcasms at the inevitable result of the indefinite multiplication of Universities.

It will be seen that the opinion is unanimous in favour of the consolidation of the existing Universities of this Province into one on the Oxford and Cambridge model. The Chancellor, indeed, suggested a doubt, not as to the expediency, but as to the practicability of the scheme. To this the obvious answer is, that it has never been attempted on the basis now proposed. To the other objection hinted at, that such a union would imply the destruction of the religious character of our University, we are bound to say that if such were the necessary result, the Association would never have discussed the project. Without its religious element Trinity would have no *raison d'être*, even as a member of a Provincial University. It is because no such result need be anticipated, and because it will have the effect of bringing more men under the influence of its teaching, that friends of Trinity wish this scheme to be adopted.

That Canadians who are deeply interested in the improvement of national education, sympathize with this movement, is shown by the article from the *NATION* which we print below.

As Professor Ambury has already expressed his views on this subject in the daily press, we have omitted any mention of his speech, but have selected a few paragraphs bearing more immediately upon it, from one of his admirable letters.

The communications we have received from members of the Corporation and other friends of Trinity, encourage us to hope that the authorities of our University will take this question into their earnest

consideration and rescue themselves from the reproach of wasting the years *operose nihil agendo*.

We would urge our fellow-graduates who have not already done so, to send in their names and addresses to the Secretary. Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer. Though (to use the words of Lord Dufferin), "we are strong in medicine," few Medical graduates have become members of the Association. This is probably due to a mistaken impression of its character. We would remind them that it is a University, not a College association, and express the hope that they will no longer stand aloof from us.

A reunion of Trinity men at the College in the ensuing spring, for the discussion of matters of deep importance, is under the consideration of the Committee.

We are justified in stating that our last annual dinner was a great success, for which we are indebted to a great extent to the assistance of Prof. Ambery, which we are glad to have an opportunity of acknowledging.

Signed on behalf of the Committee.

GEO. A. MACKENZIE,

Secretary.

R. GREGORY COX,

Treasurer.

ANNUAL DINNER, 29TH DEC., 1874.

LIST OF TOASTS.

THE QUEEN.

Revered, beloved! O you that hold
 A nobler office upon earth
 Than arms, or power of brain, or birth
 Could give the warrior kings of old!

Her court was pure, her life serene:
 God gave her peace; her land reposed:
 A thousand claims to reverence closed
 In her as Mother, Wife, and Queen.

THE FOUNDER.

Ever witness for him
 Those TWINS OF LEARNING that he raised in you.
King Henry viii.

THE CLERGY.

To all the country dear;
 And passing rich—with forty pounds a year.

THE ARMY, NAVY, AND VOLUNTEERS.

Halt! Shoulder Arms! Attention! Stand at Ease!
 O Britain! O my country! Words like these
 Have made thy name a terror and a fear
 To all the nations.

THE SISTER UNIVERSITIES.

Facies non omnibus una,
 Nec diversa tamen, qualis decet esse sororum.

TRINITY.

"Floreat domus."

THE BENCH AND BAR.

The depths of lawe they searche with painfull toyle,
 Not cunning quirkes, the simple man to spoyle.

THE LADIES.

Propria quæ maribus.

No angel, but a dearer being, dipt
 In angel instincts, breathing Paradise.

In response to the toast of "THE FOUNDER," the Provost said :

MR. PRESIDENT :

It is with great satisfaction that I hear the toast which has just been announced proposed within these walls ; and there is no toast of the evening to which I should feel it so high an honour and so great a pleasure to respond.

We must act in the present—we must provide for the future ; but we can do neither the one nor the other well and wisely, except we look with loving and reverend eyes to the past ; and if this be our duty as men in all the relations of life, most assuredly it must be our duty as members of this Society.

The past on which we have, in this capacity, to look back, is not a very distant one, and it appeals most strongly to our sympathies.

The place in which we are now assembled will bring before the minds of some here present the ceremony of the inauguration of Trinity College, at which the revered and beloved prelate whose memory we now recall presided nearly twenty-three years ago. It will also remind them of many other subsequent gatherings of a lighter character, at which, however, he did not disdain to grace our proceedings by his venerable and genial presence. I would venture, then, to suggest that we cannot, as members of this Society, more truly honour his memory, or raise to it any more appropriate or acceptable tribute, than by using our best endeavour to carry out his plans and mature his designs in respect of this College. We know that the object contemplated by the late Bishop himself and by those who laboured with him, was to establish a college in which the sons of members of the Church of England might receive a higher education, in accordance with the teaching of that Church, and so be enabled to serve God, not only in the sacred ministry of His Church, but also in the

several liberal professions and in the ordinary walks of life. When I look around me here, and when I remember the men who have gone forth from us during the last twenty years, some of them honourably known at home or in the remoter parts of the Empire, I cannot think that the work to which the late Bishop put his hand has failed to bear good fruit, notwithstanding the many difficulties and struggles through which Trinity College has passed. We must, I think, be satisfied that had no such work been undertaken, the position of the Church in this Province must have contrasted very unfavourably with that which it now occupies.

For myself, I owe to the late Bishop a debt of most grateful and affectionate remembrance. I received from him the kindness of a father. Amid the difficulties, which are inseparable from the conduct of a new institution, his kindly invitation was, "Always come to me if you are at a loss," and he was one to whom, under such circumstances, I never went in vain. Constitutional and responsible government is, no doubt, an excellent thing in theory, but, for personal comfort and convenience, nothing is to be compared to a mild and equitable despotism. The late Bishop was, indeed, a man to rule, but he ruled for the benefit of those who were content to acknowledge his sway.

Before I sit down, Mr. President, I must be allowed to mention, in connection with this toast, a name which I am satisfied the late Bishop would desire should ever be associated with his own when we speak of him within these walls—the name of the late Sir John Robinson. His memory, too, I must ever cherish with the deepest respect and gratitude, as that of a wise and sagacious counsellor—of a tried and steadfast friend. I know, too, the place which he held in the esteem of the late Bishop, who often spoke of him as his right hand. May we never forget the memory and the example of men like these. If we are true to

ourselves and to the principles on which they laboured to erect this College, I am well assured that not only we ourselves, but our descendants in long years to come, will have cause to bless God that our country and our Church were permitted in His good providence, to number among their sons these two illustrious names. (Applause).

Mr. Coldwin Smith being called upon to respond to the toast of "THE SISTER UNIVERSITIES," on behalf of Oxford, said :

He was entitled to respond to the toast of "The Sister Universities," if gratitude could constitute a title, for he had shared the bounty of Oxford Founders, first as a student in Magdalen College, the most beautiful of all the homes of learning, and afterwards in University College, which, though the story of its foundation by King Alfred is not to be relied on historically, may well be proud of being dedicated to the memory of a sovereign who was not only the political saviour of his country but also the restorer of English learning. Not long ago he had visited Oxford, and while he stood on the dome of the Radcliffe Library and looked down on the glories of the historic city with its twenty-five Colleges and Halls, it naturally occurred to him to ask when we should have a counterpart of those glories here.

The grandeur of Oxford and Cambridge had been produced by concentrating the resources of learning and science in one place instead of scattering them over the country. This concentration had been due in the first instance to happy accident. In the Middle Ages there was no source of knowledge but the oral teaching of the professors, to the centre of which all students were obliged to resort. But the same course had been pursued by the later founders, and the result was a University rich not only in money and all the appliances of learning and science but in the advantages of intellectual intercourse, and that stimulating intellectual atmosphere which was as valuable as pecuniary endowments to the student. Here,

as in the United States, the opposite system had unfortunately prevailed, which there sometimes led to the result that the observatory was found in one place, the observer in another, and the telescope in a third. While such a system of separation continued to prevail, it was impossible for Canada to have a really great University ; but it was most desirable that we should have a really great University in this country. At Oxford there were several Canadian students, amongst them some who would inherit great wealth, and probably exercise great social and political influence in Canada. It was easy to see how much there was to attract these young Canadians to the great Universities of the mother country. But it was better that, if possible, they should be educated among those among whom they were to pass their lives and with whom they were to act, even if home education involved some intellectual sacrifice. If we could build up in course of time an Oxford in Canada, it would be our best tribute of gratitude for all that we owe to the Universities of the mother country. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. Moss, M.P., Vice-Chancellor of the University of Toronto, expressed his sympathy with the objects for which the Association had been established. After speaking in terms of encouragement of the Association, he said that he learned from a printed statement of its objects, which he had seen, and from some of the remarks made by preceding speakers, that it intended to bring prominently before its members the feasibility of the establishment of one great Provincial University. He was conscious of the great difficulties in detail which surrounded this project. They might be unsurmountable—he did not know ; but, speaking for himself, he would say that he had not abandoned the hope of yet seeing one central University, dispensing with equal hands her degrees and honors. (Cheers.) Dear to her sons as Oxford or Cambridge is (and most eloquently have their praises been sounded this evening), he claimed equal pride in, and affection

for, his own *Alma Mater*, the University of Toronto. He held with Mr. Goldwin Smith, that, whatever their imperfections, the Universities of Canada were the best for Canadians. (Hear, hear.) Our Universities could not, of course, assert an equality with those of the older land ; still, they had already done good service, and, with the earnest efforts being made to improve them, they would, he had every confidence, keep pace with the needs of the country. All our Universities could unite, even if that union which had been referred to were deemed impracticable, to work together for one common end—to oppose truth and learning to falsehood and ignorance ; and if the greater union could not be realized, he trusted both University and Trinity College would always be found working harmoniously together for the improvement of our common country. (Cheers.)

The toast of "TRINITY" having been given, the well-known College song "*Met' Agona*," was sung by the whole company.

The Hon. J. H. Cameron, Chancellor of the University, in response, said that Trinity College would always be glad to meet the representatives of other Universities in friendly and social intercourse, as on the present occasion. Some of the gentlemen, whom they had listened to with interest, had touched upon a topic of great importance to the cause of education in this country. He meant the subject of a closer union between the various Universities. It was always a pleasure to listen to the words of those who had devoted much thought to educational questions, and who were thoroughly qualified to speak upon such questions. He had, therefore, listened to the observations of Mr. Goldwin Smith and Dr. Wilson with attention. No person who desired the progress of higher education could help wishing that some such scheme as had been spoken of by the gentlemen he had named—some scheme whereby one strong national University should take the place of many scattered and weaker

institutions—might be devised and promoted. But while the friends of Trinity College would yield to none in an earnest desire to advance the general interests of education, it was impossible for them to forget the events which called Trinity College into existence, and the reasons which might still present an obstacle, as far as this College was concerned, to the consummation of such a union. Trinity College was founded by him whose memory had been reverently pledged that night, with an object which should be dear to the heart of every true member of the Church. That object she would never consent to forego. Any scheme of union which might endanger the fulfilment of her mission could not be countenanced for a moment. Trinity College had endeavored faithfully to carry out the purposes of its founder. He trusted that, through great difficulty and discouragement she had, to a large extent, succeeded. If it were possible to extend her sphere of usefulness by entering into a union such as had been referred to—if such a union could be shewn to be practicable, he thought that Trinity College would not hold aloof. He feared, however, that the advocates of the project would be met by many difficulties—difficulties which might prove insurmountable. Laudable as the idea was—simple as it seemed in theory—he had too much reason to fear that attempts to carry it into practical effect would result in failure. But, speaking as Chancellor of Trinity College, although with no authority from the Corporation so to speak, he considered that he might venture to say that whenever it could be shewn that a plan of University consolidation, in which Trinity would be justly represented, and by which its peculiar sphere would not be circumscribed, could be realized, her authorities would be prepared to cast in her fortunes with her sisters in this Province. (Applause.)

(From Professor Ambery's letter to the *Globe* of January 15):

"I am not ashamed of the present condition of

Trinity. Her funds are in good order and well looked after. Her roll of graduates numbers at least four hundred; part in Holy Orders from Central India to Japan; part in Law, in Medicine, in the higher branches of commerce; some in high educational positions; and against not one lies there any stain of reproach for want of honesty or open immoral living. Trinity has done her duty to the State as well as to the Church. Within her walls, in our Society,

"We hold debate—a band
Of youthful friends—on mind and art,
And labour, and the changing mart,
And all the framework of the land."

We have done our duty to the State during the twenty-four years of our working. That we are labouring outside of State organization is a hardship to some of us; but I hope the time is at hand when our claims will be recognized, and we shall be, with University College, breast-a-breast in the front ranks of a grand Provincial University. We both claim one founder—

"Ever witness for him
Those TWINS OF LEARNING, that he raised in you."

Our difficulties have been constantly and persistently reported by our enemies; and the theological teaching of our College—the best bulwark against the encroachments and innovations of the modern Church of Rome—is held up to uneducated and philistine prejudice as Romanizing and unprotestant.

In addition to a staff in Classics, Mathematics, and Chemistry, equal numerically to that of University College, we have a Medical department with twelve professors, and outnumbering in students most Medical Schools in the Dominion. We have built at Port Hope an establishment twice as large as Trinity itself—a thoroughly efficient public school, with more than one hundred boarders. Nor must I neglect to notice what we consider the characteristic feature of our University—the education rather than instruction of the youth committed to our

charge, in hall, in chapel, in lecture, in the field ;—that we attempt to form manners, to add moral strength to intellectual development ; and we feel convinced that when we join a national University—as *my earnest prayer is we soon may*—if we do not add many animate cyclopædias to its roll, we shall present some sound bodies as well as sound minds—and if we bring not much ‘light,’ we may at least give some ‘sweetness’ to our new *Alma Mater*.”

A PROVINCIAL UNIVERSITY.

(*From the Nation of February 12, 1875.*)

We ventured the other day, in reference to the exceptions not unnaturally taken by the Church Association to the teaching of Trinity College, to suggest that the right course was not to run down the College, but to merge its intellectual narrowness in the amplitude of a great University. Trinity College itself seems not opposed to that policy. At the annual dinner of the graduates a short time ago the question was mooted, and the tone of the speeches and of the meeting was in favour of consolidation. The Chancellor, Mr. HILLYARD CAMERON, seemed to feel that there would be some practical difficulty, as no doubt there would, in carrying the plan of consolidation into effect ; but he did not say that the difficulty was insuperable, and supposing that it could be overcome he appeared to admit the advantages of the plan.

Of the advantages of the plan in truth there can scarcely be a doubt. The French military axiom, *petite place, mauvaise place*, is as applicable to Universities as it is to fortresses. Suppose a small University to possess what hardly any small University does possess, adequate equipments in the shape of libraries, collections and scientific apparatus ; suppose it to possess what no small University can possess, a sufficient staff of first-rate teachers in all the different departments ; it would nevertheless be

unable to afford to its members the full benefit of a University education. What the student learns in the lecture room is not all ; his intellectual character is formed quite as much by intercourse with a multitude of active-minded companions, and by the general atmosphere in which he lives. Still less is it possible that a University should do its work well as a place for the advancement of learning and science without the mutual stimulus, assistance and correction which a large body of learned and scientific men afford to each other. It is well known that the most eminent of Canadian engineers is strongly of opinion that sources of wealth which are now lost to us might be secured to the country by the development of our higher scientific education, which cannot be brought about except by the creation of an effective department of science in the University ; while that again is hardly possible, in a country the wealthy class of which is so limited as it is in ours, unless all those who resort to Universities without distinction of creed, will combine their resources for the purpose. Any scheme for connecting our Universities with our high schools and public schools, and for forming in course of time a ladder of endowments by which merit may mount from the lowest grade to the highest would also require the organization of the whole system on a national basis. Political considerations point in the same direction as the interests of learning and science. Nothing can be more conducive to national unity than the fusion of all the most active-minded youth, and those who are destined to be the leaders of society, in the same great place of final education. England has reaped the full benefit of this influence ; and assuredly we, with our half-formed Confederation, and in face of so many disuniting forces both of race and religion cannot afford to disregard it. We hope it is no treason to add that a great University, such as consolidation alone can produce, would recall to Canada the Canadian wealth and talent which now naturally enough resort to the Universities of the

Mother Country, and there become half alien to the people among whom and with whom the student is to act for the remainder of his life. If any one deems a foreign education necessary to open the mind, as one of the speakers at the Trinity College dinner seemed to do, he should remember that our young men may travel in Europe, and what is of still more importance, that they will use European books. But it is a waste of words to argue without an opponent. Everyone admits that our present system of small local Universities owes its existence not to regard for the interests of learning or science but to denominational necessity. Everyone admits that though the local Universities may have met the exigencies of the special case, and thus rendered good service in their day, they now stand in the way of something much better than themselves. To the value of degrees the existence of these little institutions in which students are examined for literary honours by their own teachers, is manifestly fatal : and in a society which we have the Governor-General's authority for calling essentially democratic, the depreciation of any genuine distinction is especially to be deplored.

The thing most to be desired is, that all our denominational or local Colleges should migrate to the central University of the Province, and there be federated into one great institution, as the Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge are, for the purpose of literary and scientific instruction, and for the maintenance of common libraries and other requisite apparatus ; each College, at the same time, retaining the power of self-government within its own gates, and regulating, in accordance with the tenets of the denomination to which it belongs, its internal system of moral discipline and religious instruction. This, we say, is the thing most to be desired, and it would be as effectual a settlement as, under the present circumstances of the religious world, is possible of any difficulty arising from the conflicting claims of University education and the Churches, while the

Churches would escape the fatal contraction and emasculation of the intellect, which are the inevitable consequences of a secluded training, and which, in the great struggle between religion and infidelity, turn the balance against religion, by putting the mental weakness on her side and the mental strength on the side of the enemy. But if this were proposed at once, local interest would, perhaps, cry out ; although, so far as the mere expenditure of money in the locality is concerned, the conversion of the Colleges partly into a theological seminary for the clergymen of the denomination, partly into a large denominational school as a feeder to the central College, would probably be a sufficient indemnity. The same opposition would not be encountered in consolidating all the Universities for the purpose of examination and graduation. It is difficult, at least, to understand what interest the inhabitants of any locality can have in the general depreciation of degrees. If any one else has an interest in such an abuse of privilege, the Legislature, as the guardian of national interests, need not hesitate to interpose. Every charter must be granted on the condition implied, if not expressed, that the public objects of the Government in granting it are properly fulfilled. A charter empowering an institution to grant national degrees in every department of science and learning, manifestly carries with it an obligation on the part of the institution to be provided with all the proper means of teaching and examination. If these means are not provided and national honours are, in consequence, prostituted and and deprived of all value, public right will pronounce that the privileges of the charter can no longer be maintained. The principle that chartered institutions must continue to serve their public purpose has, we apprehend, been abundantly asserted by the British Parliament, in the reform of the English Universities, and of many other chartered foundations in England.

It is probably necessary that the first step

should be taken by the Government ; and we can seldom expect a party Government, or any section of a party Legislature, to take the initiative in a question upon which no votes depend. Colonel WILLIAMS, in the late Assembly, illustrated the usefulness of an independent member by taking the matter up and pressing the Government to appoint a Commission of Inquiry. It was not surprising that, at a late period of the session, and on the eve of the elections, the Prime Minister declined to embark in an undertaking serious in itself, and by which some electoral hornets' nest might possibly have been stirred. But we hope the postponement was not a final refusal. This is the time for action, since, on the one hand, there appears to be a willingness on the part of some, at all events, of the local Universities, to entertain the proposal of consolidation ; while, on the other hand, the local system is rapidly striking roots which it will soon become very difficult to pluck up. There is no reason, so far as we know, why a Commission of Inquiry should not be appointed without delay, and be ready to report by the next meeting of the Legislature. When a question which has been the subject of Parliamentary discussion is consigned to a Commission, as in the case of the Pacific Railway Inquiry, constitutional principle requires that the opportunity should be afforded to Parliament of pronouncing an opinion on the measure. But a Commission of Inquiry merely for the information of the Government, or to prepare material for a bill, may, we conceive, be properly issued at any time. Whatever course may be deemed best, it is to be hoped that no mere indifference or inertness will be allowed to interfere with the prompt and judicious treatment of a question which concerns not only the interests of learning and science, but those of the country at large. Provincial patriotism may add its spur to more general motives ; for if University consolidation does not take place now at Toronto, it will take place hereafter at Montreal.

an
of
es-
il-
al-
he
nt
ng
ve
to
by
ly
nt
n,
g-
cal
la-
is
ry
as
ot
rt
a
ry
he
al
be
on
ry
or
be
ay
n-
re
s-
n-
e.
re
on
ke